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University of Massachusetts at Boston

Volume 9, No. 49

September 23, 1975

Faculty Meeting

If Dr. Roy Hamilton had a title for his remarks at last week's faculty meeting, it would be "The Economics of Higher Education in Today's Sea of Troubles."

"If the budget now before the legislature were enacted tomorrow," he said, "we would have to achieve payroll reductions for the remainder of the year approximating \$700,000. And if that budget is enacted into law one month from tomorrow, we would have to make payroll reductions approximating \$800,000."

He said the trustees and president "are making their best effort to avoid such a crisis. But we don't know whether or to what extent they will succeed. While they work on that effort, we must be prudent and cautious, hoping for the best and imagining the worst. Translated into action, prudence and caution mean the following:

"Non-personnel expenditures will be controlled temporarily at the level of the Vice Chancellors for Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Administration and Finance;

"utilization of the physical plant will be restricted so far as possible to activities called for by the teaching program;

"no funds are available for out-of-state travel or equipment purchases;

"telephone and duplication services will be reduced;

"the hours of Library operations are reduced;

"services from the Physical Plant Department are reduced and subject to substantial delays because of manpower shortages;

"personnel vacancies cannot be filled unless the Ways and Means Committees of the Legislature certify the existence of a critical need. In practice this means that the only immediate solution to personnel shortages lies in temporary, and perhaps permanent reassignment of currently employed persons together with their positions. The Chancellor will shortly issue guidelines on this subject.

"We must be prepared, by the first of January, 1975, to know how we will reallocate substantially reduced resources, should it become necessary, in accordance with the current budget prospects for the spring semester of this academic year and fall and spring semesters of the next academic year, 1976-1977.

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Faculty Meeting
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"We are and have for some months been caught in the politics of a financial crisis in this state, with a variety of political forces contending for a suddenly and dramatically reduced supply of public money. We need to remind ourselves that the amount of public money coming to the University of Massachusetts will turn on the number of votes we can count in the House and Senate of the Massachusetts legislature in the next thirty days. Put the other way around, the amount of public money we get in the next thirty days will in no way turn on our self-praise or doctrinaire appraisal of the relative value of public higher education except as we are able to convince our elected representatives that public money is better spent here than somewhere else."

Acting Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Dr. Donald Babcock emphasized the role of administration and governance communications and pledged to facilitate the process.

Chancellor Golino said "the sooner we realize the dire straits of public higher education in Massachusetts, the quicker we should do something about it."

On a positive note he said the Altshuler report on the College of Public and Community Service says the college is moving in the right direction and that it is fulfilling its mission.

He said he was pleased with the good start by the faculty and students of the College of Professional Studies and that the college would continue to receive his support.

The staff of the Institute of Learning and Teaching was praised for its contributions over the summer on its role in the desegregation problems in the Boston public schools. Chancellor Golino said the Another Course to College Program for some 200 11th grade students has begun through the joint efforts of the Boston School Department and ILT.

Dr. Dorothy Marshall, Faculty Representative to the Board of Trustees, noted her disapproval of aspects of the Hay Report, the university management study. This was also noted by Dr. Salvatore Schiavo-Campo, Faculty Co-Chairman of the University Assembly.

Dr. Bettina Harrison, Biology I, was elected to succeed Prof. Edward Ginsberg, Physics, as Secretary of the Faculty.

On behalf of the Faculties and of the campus Chancellor Golino expressed gratitude for Prof. Ginsberg's willingness to serve as Secretary of the Faculties over the last several years. "The Faculty meetings represent an extremely important part of the campus life, and your contributions are deeply appreciated," the Chancellor said.

The next Faculty meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 24, at 12:30 in the Science Auditorium, to discuss the faculty committee report on the Academic Personnel Policies of the University.

Names and Numbers

If you are interested in writing to your State Senator or State Representative, a list of their names and addresses for your district is available at the Bulletin office, Room 348, Administration Building.

Black Studies Department at UMass-Boston

The Afro-American Studies Concentration Program at UMass-Boston is now the new Black Studies Department, which will offer a major in Black Studies with three possible areas of concentration: Social Sciences, History, and Humanities. The department will also offer a five courses concentration to all students regardless of major.

Last year the Afro-American studies concentration program grew from a schedule of 4 courses serving some 60 students to one of 11 courses serving over 250 students per semester. In addition to increasing the number of courses its own faculty taught, the program was able to attract cooperative relationships with faculty in History, Sociology, English, Anthropology, Political Science, and Economics, among others. Through these collaborations, and the efforts of members of the Afro-American Studies Concentration Committee, the foundation for a Black Studies Department was built. With its own and collaborating faculty this new department will be able to offer as many as 30 different courses a year.

Chairman is Bruce R. Hare, former director of the concentration, who this June completed his doctorate from the University of Chicago specializing in Sociology of Education and Social Psychology. Dr. Hare has been at UMass-Boston for two years both as an Instructor in the Afro-American Concentration Program, and in the Department of Sociology College I.

Politics and Taxes

Prof. Diane Paul's book, The Politics of the Property Tax, published in July focuses on the politics of assessing in big cities. In most big cities extra-legal structures of assessing have developed in which some kinds of property are consistently assessed at higher ratios of value than others. For example, single-family homes are generally assessed at lower ratios than multi-unit residences and especially commercial property while property in white residence areas is generally assessed at lower ratios than property in black areas. Ironically, those who are favored by these extra-legal structures rarely know it and many even act to overturn the structures from which they benefit. The book tries to explain why the most common assessing inequalities have come into being, how they are maintained, and why, on occasion, they are overturned. Special attention is paid to the politics of assessing in Boston and San Francisco.

Prof. Paul is a member of the College II Politics Department.

Publications

Prof. Concha Zardoya of the Spanish Department, College II, has recently published an article entitled "Isabel Paraiso y la dialéctica del dolor" in Mester, Vol. V, No. 2, Los Angeles, U.C.L.A., pp. 80-87, and a poem -- "Oda y elegía a Pablo Neruda" -- in the book Chile en el corazón, Xile al cor, Chile no

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Publications
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corazón, Txile Bihotzean. Homenaje a Pablo Neruda, edited by Aurora de Albornoz y Elena Andrés (Barcelona: Ediciones Peninsula, 1975, pp. 62-65).

New Telephone Listings

Administrative offices of College IV have been assigned these telephone numbers: Ext. 3241, 3242, 3243.

Faculty members can be reached through these numbers until further notice.

Shute on JEI Editorial Board

Prof. Laurence Shute, of the Department of Political Economy in College II, has been named to the Editorial Board of the Journal of Economic Issues (JEI). Dr. Shute's appointment takes effect on January 1, 1976. Among others on the editorial board of the JEI, which is published by the Association for Evolutionary Economics, are Clark Kerr, Murray Weidenbaum, former undersecretary of the Treasury, and Joseph Dorfman of Columbia University.

Theoretical Physics

The 14th annual Eastern Theoretical Physics Conference will be held at UMass-Boston on November 7 and 8. Cochairmen of the Conference are Prof. Edward Ginsberg and Prof. Arthur W. Martin, Physics.

Four sessions will be held on Astrophysics, Solid State Theory, Nuclear Theory and Particle Theory.

The tentative program is:

ASTROPHYSICS -- FRIDAY MORNING, NOV. 7

SPEAKERS: Kenneth Brecher, M.I.T.
David De Young, National Radio Astronomy Observatory
Jeremiah Ostriker, Princeton University Observatory

CHAIRMAN: Philip Morrison, M.I.T.

SOLID STATE THEORY -- FRIDAY AFTERNOON, NOV. 7

SPEAKERS: P. G. deGennes, College de France
Bertrand Halperin, Bell Telephone Laboratories
Louis Howard, M.I.T., or Nancy Kopell, Northeastern

CHAIRMAN: Paul Martin, Harvard

NUCLEAR THEORY -- SATURDAY MORNING, NOV. 8

SPEAKERS: Hans Bethe, Cornell
Bruce French, University of Rochester
(Third speaker to be determined shortly)

CHAIRMAN: Arthur Kerman, M.I.T.

PARTICLE THEORY -- SATURDAY AFTERNOON, NOV. 8

SPEAKERS: Sidney Coleman, Harvard
Frederick Gilman, Stanford Linear Accelerator Center
Kurt Gottfried, Cornell

CHAIRMAN: Sheldon Glashow, Harvard